

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY  
FOR ORIGINAL U.S. PATENT APPLICATION

Attorney's Docket No. KKF1P005

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: CLAMPING DEVICE AND PRODUCTION PROCESS the specification of which,

- (check one)
1. ☐ is attached hereto.
2. ☐ was filed on \_\_\_\_\_ as  
U.S. Application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_  
and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_
3. ☒ was filed on October 29, 1997 as  
International PCT Application Serial No. PCT/EP97/05961  
and was amended on November 6, 1998

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, CFR § 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States code, § 119(a)-(d) or § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or § 365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or PCT International application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)			Priority Benefits Claimed?
<u>196 44 822 0</u> (Appl. No.)	<u>Germany</u> (Country)	<u>October 29, 1996</u> (Filing Date)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
_____ (Appl. No.)	_____ (Country)	_____ (Filing Date)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
_____ (Appl. No.)	_____ (Country)	_____ (Filing Date)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

_____ (Application Serial No.)	_____ (Filing Date)
_____ (Application Serial No.)	_____ (Filing Date)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s), or § 365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status - patented, pending, abandoned)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status - patented, pending, abandoned)

8 And I hereby appoint the law firm of Hickman Stephens & Coleman, including Paul L. Hickman (Reg. No. 28,516); L. Keith Stephens (Reg. No. 32,632); Brian R. Coleman (Reg. No. 39,145); Michael E. Melton (Reg. No. 32,276); Jerry Wei (Reg. No. 43,247); Robert D. Hayden (Reg. No. 42,645); Kevin J. Zalka (Reg. No. 41,429); and Dominic M. Kotab (Reg. No. 42,762) as my principal attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Send Correspondence To:

**HICKMAN STEPHENS & COLEMAN, LLP**  
**P.O. BOX 52037**  
**Palo Alto, California 94303-0746**

Direct Telephone Calls To:

Attorney Name at telephone number (650) 470-7430

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

1-0  
 Typewritten Full Name of  
 Sole or First Inventor:

HEILAND ChristophCitizenship: German

Inventor's signature:

[Signature]Date of Signature: April 27, 1999

Residence: (City)

Wurmansau/Saulgrub(State/Country) Germany DEU

Post Office Address:

Am Wieseneck 12, 82442 Wurmansau/Saulgrub, GermanyFull Name of Second Joint  
Inventor (if any):

Citizenship:

Inventor's signature:

Date of Signature:

Residence: (City)

(State/Country)

Post Office Address:

Full Name of Third Joint  
Inventor (if any):

Citizenship:

Inventor's signature:

Date of Signature:

Residence: (City)

(State/Country)

Post Office Address:

Applicant/Patentee: HEILAND Christoph Atty Docket No. KKF1P005  
Serial or Patent No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed or Issued: \_\_\_\_\_  
For: CLAMPING DEVICE AND PRODUCTION PROCESS

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS  
37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(b)--INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled: \*\*\* described in

☒ the specification filed herewith  
☐ application serial no. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ patent no. \_\_\_\_\_, issued \_\_\_\_\_

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

☒ no such person, concern, or organization  
☐ person, concerns or organizations listed below\*

**NOTE:** Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b)).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 1001 of Title 18 of the U.S. Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

HEILAND Christoph

NAME OF INVENTOR

NAME OF INVENTOR

NAME OF INVENTOR

XO Heiland  
Signature of Inventor

Signature of Inventor

Signature of Inventor

Date April 27, 1999

Date

Date